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Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Economic Development  
Division of Agr'l. Statistics  
Agricultural Extension Service  
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NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 3/29/65

Week Ending 3/29/65

WEATHER It was a very cold week with widespread snows the first half and widely scattered light snows or sprinkles the remainder of the week. By Thursday morning the State was covered with a blanket of snow that ranged from 2 to 5 inches deep at most places and up to 7 inches at Aurora and Franklin and 9 inches in the Cambridge-Culbertson area. Temperatures which were in the 40s in the Panhandle Friday afternoon, and all but the northeast on Saturday, melted the snow except for 1 to 2 inches along the northeastern border.

It was unseasonably cold for the second consecutive week. Weekly mean temperatures ranged from 17 to 22 degrees below normal. Both daytime and nighttime temperatures were unusually low for the season.

Temperatures remained below freezing the first four days and stayed in the teens or lower all day Tuesday and Wednesday. Below zero readings were noted in all sections except the southeast corner. Reports of -5 to -15 were common in the western half with the coldest being 17 degrees below zero at Cambridge and Gordon. Many stations set new all time lows for so late in the season.

CROPS The progress of spring field work has fallen much behind normal. No spring seeding has occurred to date while normally about 20 percent of the oats acreage has been seeded by April 1. Machine operations in fields so far this spring have been limited to scattered reports of shredding stalks and fertilizing. The surface soil is muddy or frozen in most parts of the State and it will probably be about two weeks before major field operations can possibly get underway.

Fall sown small grains remain dormant as unseasonably low temperatures prevailed through most of the week. There has been some concern about these crops in the east where ice and water have covered plants in parts of the fields for long periods of time. Snow provided a cover on most wheat fields during the period of extremely low temperatures. Soil erosion, which has been a problem in the west, caused only limited damage last week as high winds generally did not occur.

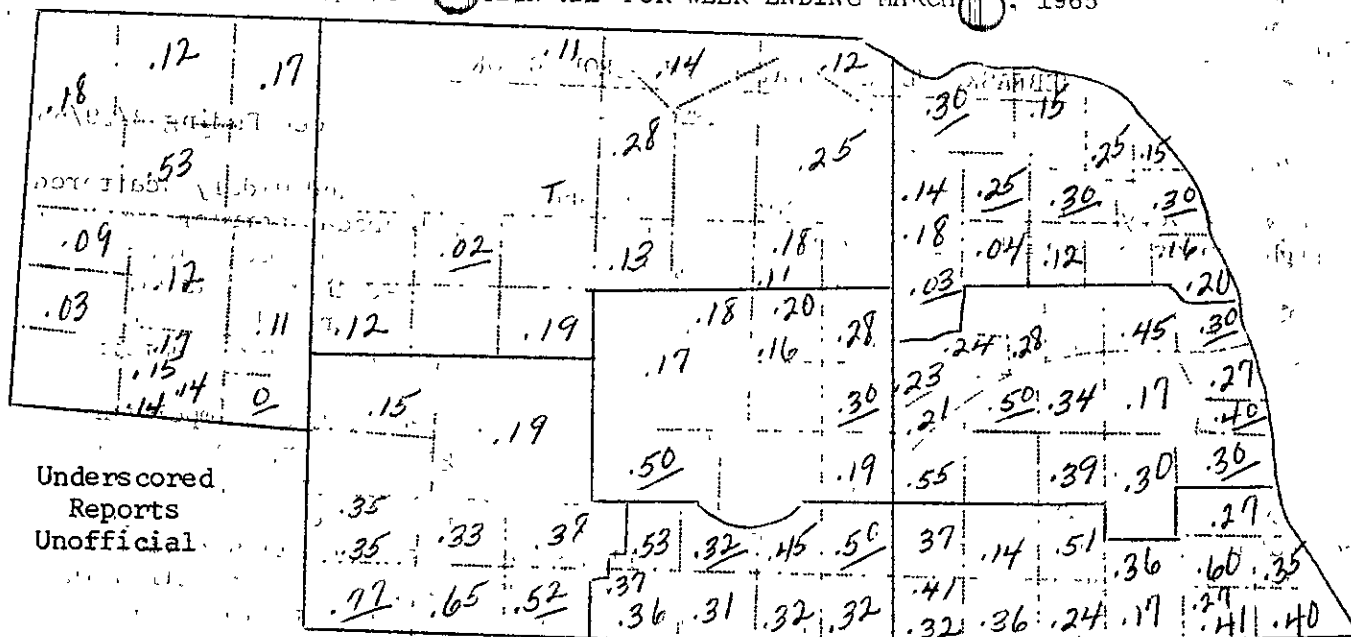
Melting snow has improved the surface soil moisture situation in most counties. However, moisture supplies in the top soil in the Northwest, North Central and portions of the Central Districts are low. Precipitation is needed in the range area so that grasses will get a good start. The extreme eastern counties now have adequate moisture in the subsoil area as a result of rain and melting snow. Elsewhere subsoil moisture supplies are short.

LIVESTOCK Low temperatures caused a drop in livestock and poultry production rates. Some losses of newborn livestock were also attributed to the cold, stormy weather. However, producers spent many hours providing the necessary care for the young animals and losses were generally held to a minimum. Supplemental feeding continues at a high level as snow covered the feed and roughage remaining in fields and winter pastures. Hay and roughage supplies are running low in some areas because of the continued high level of supplemental feeding.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 28, 1965

East		Central		West	
Grand Island	.19	Burwell	.11	Chadron	.16
Lincoln	.30	North Platte	.19	Imperial	.35
Norfolk	.04	Valentine	.11	Scottsbluff	.09
Omaha	.25			Sidney	.15
Sioux City	.15				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1965



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m., CST)

		March		23rd		24th		25th		26th		27th		28th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	25	-1	15	3	16	-11	20	-3	40	18	38	26	32	16
	Scottsbluff	30	1	16	5	14	-2	22	3	48	21	46	29	42	18
	Sidney	36	-1	12	1	9	-9	12	-6	39	23	44	29	37	18
NC	Burwell	25	-1	13	6	19	-3	24	-7	25	21	37	27	35	-
	Valentine	18	-4	14	5	14	-10	18	3	30	22	30	24	30	13
NE	Norfolk	24	4	10	6	16	7	20	-3	23	19	38	28	37	18
	Sioux City	22	5	12	9	18	11	20	1	24	20	40	30	38	22
CEN	Grand Island	29	5	13	4	13	-2	16	-3	25	23	43	30	38	19
EC	Lincoln	31	10	14	7	15	10	20	2	28	25	45	32	38	22
	Omaha	26	-8	12	6	14	9	20	8	26	21	41	32	37	19
SW	Imperial	45	2	15	4	11	3	15	-10	35	19	45	30	42	20
	North Platte	34	2	15	7	12	1	14	-5	33	21	47	28	39	17

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